

SECRET

18 September 1951

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

SUBJECT: Conversation with King Zog at Meeting on Wednesday, 12 September.

1. I called on King Zog on 12 September 1951, in order to complete arrangements relating to the team of four men which he is going to supply for infiltration into Albania. After explaining to the King that we would like to make a security check on the individuals selected by him, I asked to be advised of the names of the four men and gave him a set of pseudonyms and cryptonyms to be used in the event he should find it necessary to correspond with me on the operation in question. He stated that at the moment he did not have the full names of the four agents, that he would probably select two of the officers living with him in Egypt, Bajram Nelli and Hadji Guli, with a member of the Bicaku family (presently living in Istanbul) and a man named Zmbljaku (presently in Greece) as guides. He further stated that Col. Selmani will be in charge of the details insofar as the King's end of this operation is concerned and that the Colonel will be available to go to Greece and assist in mounting the operation whenever necessary. We jointly agreed that it would probably be best if the man from Istanbul were to be moved to Cairo by the King without delay and that the two officers accompanied by this man would then be moved overtly from Cairo to some European country, from which they could go to Germany and be picked up by us for clandestine movement to Greece. I stated that in view of the time required for the preparation of W/T operators, we would probably be unable to mount the operation in October as mentioned at the preceding meeting, and would have to conduct the infiltration in November.

2. As regards communications between the King and myself, it was agreed that I would write to Col. Selmani care of the Albanian Legation in Cairo, using the system of cryptos and pseudos agreed upon, and that the letters would be mailed or delivered in Egypt through a secure channel available to me. As regards letters from the King, he would have them delivered to me through the ^{American} Military Attaché in Cairo who has secure means for transmitting such material.

3. In regard to final arrangements for the movement of agents, I stated that either I, myself, or someone else personally known to

me would visit

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me would visit the King, probably late in October, and complete whatever details remain to be cleaned up.

4. The King stated that he would prefer to have this particular operation handled exclusively as an American undertaking, without British participation, although he has no objection to our sharing the resulting intelligence with the British. He also agreed with my thought that the matter must be handled without the knowledge of the Albanian Committee.

5. With regard to the National Committee for Free Albania, King Zog said that he felt sure that many of the difficulties in handling the Committee stemmed from the fact that the British are attempting to maintain their influence by playing off various elements against the Americans. He regarded this as an extremely unfortunate matter which should be settled if at all possible, since once it is definitely established that the Americans are in control, much of the inter-party intriguing and bickering would cease. I explained that the Albanian Committee is supported jointly by the British and the Americans and there is no way in which this arrangement can be changed.

6. Upon conclusion of business discussions, King Zog introduced me to his Egyptian lawyer, who is also King Farouk's lawyer according to Zog, and then took me to dinner with Col. Selmani and Prince Tati Kossova.

Chief, EE-1

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